

Message Text

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43

ACTION SCA-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-05 ISO-00 VOE-00 A-01 PM-07 SY-10 ABF-01

SS-20 DRC-01 RSC-01 (ISO) W
----- 102820

R 140635Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9033

UNCLAS KUWAIT 0991

FOR NEA/EX, VO AND M

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: KU AFSP CVIS

SUBJ: NEED FOR ADDITIONAL CONSULAR PERSONNEL

REF: A) STATE 21246 B) KUWAIT 2697, JUL 29, 1973

1. WE HAVE CAREFULLY REVIEWED POLICY AND WORKING GUIDELINES CONCERNING NIV FUNCTION AS OUTLINED REF A. INSOFAR AS FEASIBLE, WE HAVE ALREADY IMPLEMENTED OPERATIONS SUGGESTIONS INCLUDED IN GUIDELINES. WE CONTINUE TO HAVE STAFFING PROBLEMS, HOWEVER. SINGLE AUTHORIZED CONSULAR FSL POSITION IS TOTALLY INADEQUATE TO PROCESS HIGH VOLUME OF VISA WORK OF THIS EMBASSY. ABOUT EIGHT MONTHS AGO (REF B) WE OUTLINED NEEDS AS FOLLOWS: FY 74 -3.5 AMERICANS AND 2 FSLs; FY 75 - 3.5 AMERICANS AND 2.5 LOCALS.

2. VISA WORKLOAD HAS MOUNTED STEADILY THROUGHOUT YEAR AND WE EXPECT AND EVEN GREATER WORKLOAD THIS SUMMER WHEN STUDENT ONSLAUGHT WILL BE AT HIGHEST. IN PARTICULAR, THE ONE AUTHORIZED CONSULAR FSL WHO CARRIES BURDEN OF ENTIRE ROUTINE WORKLOAD, IS PLANNING LEAVE THIS SUMMER FOR FIRST TIME IN THREE YEARS AND WE MUST HAVE OTHER TRAINED PERSONNEL ABOARD TO TAKE CARE OF SUMMER RUSH.

3. AS OUTLINED REF B, CONSULAR SECTION REQUIRES ANOTHER FSL FULL TIME FOR BOULDER REQUIREMENTS AND INCREASED NIV LOV.

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DURING RUSH PERIOD, JUNE THROUGH OCTOBER, ADDITIONAL FSL REQUIRED.

WE HAVE BEEN ABLE MEET WORKLOAD ONLY BY PART-TIME USE FSLs FROM OTHER SECTIONS OF EMBASSY AND BY SUBSTANTIAL (UNCOMPENSATED) OVERTIME OF DEDICATED CONSULAR FSL. BOTH SECOND FULL-TIME AND ADDITIONAL RUSH PERIOD FSLs WILL BE REQUIRED THIS SUMMER.

4. CLASSIFIED TYPING, FILING, ETC. CURRENTLY BEING DONE BY OFFICERS THEMSELVES OR AMERICAN SECRETARIES OF OTHER SECTIONS WHEN THEY ARE AVAILABLE, BUT MOUNTING WORKLOAD NOW REQUIRES PART-TIME AMERICAN SECRETARY LOCATED IN VISA SECTION. THIS WILL BE ACTIVE JOB IN MORNING WHEN OTHER SECRETARIES NORMALLY FULLY OCCUPIED, AND WORK ALSO INQUIRES KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH OFFICERS IN SECTION SO THAT SHARING SECRETARIES LOCATED ELSEWHERE IS NOT SATISFACTORY.

5. AS DEPT AWARE, CONSULAR SECTION EXPECTED HAVE SERIES OF AMERICAN OFFICER CHANGES AT BEGINNING OF SUMMER RUSH SEASON SO IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ADEQUATE LOCAL HELP BE ON BOARD AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE. OM FOLLOWS GIVING FULL JUSTIFICATION FOR ONE PERMANENT FULL-TIME FSL, ONE FIVE-MONTH PER YEAR FULL-TIME FSL, AND ONE HALF-TIME AMERICAN DEPENDENT SECRETARY. WE HAVE LOCATED AMERICAN WIFE WHO WOULD BE GREAT HELP IN SECTION AND WOULD LIKE EMPLOY HER SOONEST, FIVE HOURS DAILY ON FIVE-DAY WORKWEEK.
MCCLELLAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KUWAIT00991
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740344/aaaabpbl.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SCA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 21246 B) KUWAIT 2697, JUL 2, 9, 1973
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 MAR 2002 by hagers>; APPROVED <10 DEC 2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEED FOR ADDITIONAL CONSULAR PERSONNEL
TAGS: AFSP, CVIS, KU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005